

bath therein. By rubbing the body while reciting the ^{Vf}runa Mantra^ one is immediately absolved of ail sin. In the absence of a sacred pool (Tirtha) all ablutions should be made in boiled water. Water, that lies on the surface of the earth, is more purifying than what has been collected and carried away; waters of springs or fountains are more purifying than terrestrial waters. Lake water is more purifying than fountain-water; river-water is more purifying than lake-water; the water of a sacred pool is more purifying than river-water, while the water of the Ganges is the purest of the pure. Ganges-water extinguishes the sin of a man which he might have committed from his birth to death. Of the-waters that are to be found in the sanctuaries at Gay^f or Kurukshetra, the Ganges-water is the most purifying of them all. The counsels or discourses of the erudite are more purifying in their-effect than ablutions in any sacred pool whatsoever; and in conferences of virtue and religion most sanctifying is the Br^hmana, who lives in conformity with the injunctions of the holy Vy^sa.

Baths on the occasion of the birth of one's own son, or in the event of the sun passing over to another zodiacal sign, or under the auspices of any blissful astral combination are recommended in the night, if these events take place in the night. Nocturnal baths, under the auspices of lunar eclipses, are also recommended, otherwise baths in the

night .are prohibited. A bath in the river, taken
 in early
 morning, each day, and just after the
 appearance of *he
 sun on the horizon, equals a Pijlpatyam in
 merit, and tends,
 to extinguish the *Mahapatakas*. By bathing,
 each frfdi /ing
 for a year, with a devotional spirit, one acquire*
 *** same
 merit which is ordinarily acquired by practising
 the Praji-
 patyam penance, for twelve years in
 succession. Be, who
 desires for the objects of enjoyment, effulgent as
 the win And
 the moon, and wishes to possess an⁰ absolutely
 sound aealtb,
 shall bathe, each morning/ for the two
 months in yetr»